

# STUDEREN IN HET BUITENLAND

Full Master Abroad



## Guidelines

Preparing and organizing a full master abroad has three phases: orientation, selecting and organising. Trust that it takes at least a year to arrange as Foreign master.

### Step 1 - Orientation

Answer the following questions before deciding to opt for a full master programme abroad:

- 1. What makes you interested in studying abroad ?**
  - *Are these particular academic reasons , such as deepening or broadening your knowledge, or would you like to gain experience at another academic education?*
  - *Are these personal reasons, such as living abroad, developing yourself, broadening your horizons, having new experiences and live independently?*
  - *Or are you thinking about your future career and you have the idea that a foreign master has added value? Read the 10 reasons to choose a master abroad (found on [buitenland.uva.nl](http://buitenland.uva.nl) > Studie > Master in het buitenland).*
- 2. What do you hope to achieve and experience after a master abroad? When would it be a success?**
- 3. Do you want to do a master abroad for positive or negative reasons?**
  - *Positive reasons are motivated by a personal desire. You can think of a desire to learn something new, you explore a particular academic field, broaden your horizons, a new step in your life and developing yourself personally.*
  - *Negative reasons are motivated by something you are unhappy about which you are concerned or which is not going according to plan. Maybe you've always wanted to do a second master but it is not feasible for financial reasons and therefore are you looking for a foreign master, while you actually prefer to stay in the Netherlands. Perhaps you have the idea that others expect of you to get a certain degree, while you have little need for it. Maybe you have the fear that you will little success on the labour market without a better CV.*
- 4. What are you most looking forward to when you think of your any foreign master?**

*If this is obvious for you, ask yourself whether following a master abroad actually is the best way to realise this. Would an internship abroad, travelling abroad or an exchange programme be a better option for you?*
- 5. Which courses, universities and countries appeal to you the most?**

If you find it pleasant to talk with a career counselor about (doubts about) your choice for a master abroad, please contact the Student Careers Centre ([www.uva.nl/career](http://www.uva.nl/career)). During one hour / 45 minutes you gain more insight into your situation and you are better able to find answers to your own questions.

## Searching for specific opportunities.

You have several ways to proceed if you are looking for a suitable master abroad .

- Look on the country pages ([www.wilweg.nl/countries](http://www.wilweg.nl/countries)) and on the Nuffic website ([www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie](http://www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie)). There you will find country information about the educational system and links to educational institutions.
- Check with teachers and fellow students whether they have useful information for you. In particular, teachers of your education can often tell which universities are strong in the field of your interest, and whether the relevant department at the UvA has good ties with the institution.
- Refer to the website [www.mastersportal.eu](http://www.mastersportal.eu) , a specialized website in master studies in 32 countries in Europe.
- The international academic networks of the UvA ( [buitenland.uva.nl](http://buitenland.uva.nl) > contact > network van de UvA ) may offer benefits for UvA students. Ask International Student Affairs for more information and advice about these international partners.
- Also, information about the rankings ([www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie/mogelijkheden/rankings-van-universiteiten](http://www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie/mogelijkheden/rankings-van-universiteiten)) university offers more insight into foreign universities . Therefore also read the article ([www.wilweg.nl/bibliotheek/kwaliteit-laait-zich-moeilijk-meten.pdf](http://www.wilweg.nl/bibliotheek/kwaliteit-laait-zich-moeilijk-meten.pdf)) on the value of rankings.
- Also, see the chart 'Country Specific Study Portals' on the website [buitenland.uva.nl](http://buitenland.uva.nl) > Studie > Master in het buitenland

## Step 2 - Select

*Is it clear what your goal is? Or do you have multiple options that appeal to you and you do not know yet where you want to go? Or are you doubtful, after you gathered information about a master abroad? Do you feel that you cannot do this alone?*

Make sure you involve others in your selection process. Friends, relatives and teachers can all, in their own way, help you make a good choice. Also look more closely at the questions asked in Step 1.

If you have questions that you would like to discuss independently with a student career counsellor at the UvA, please contact the Student Careers Centre ([www.uva.nl/career](http://www.uva.nl/career)). During an individual interview we will discuss which option best suits you.

## Step 3 – Organise

Once you have decided that following a master programme abroad is the perfect option for you and you explored the different options, it is now time to plan and organise your study abroad. There are four different aspects to the planning process:

**1. Apply to the university abroad**

*Most students will apply to more universities at once. The application will take time and you have to abide the deadlines given by the university, so make sure to start early. As was explained before, Doing a full master abroad is not arranged through the UvA, you will have to read the university website of your choice and follow the given instructions.*

**2. Prepare a budget and apply for scholarships**

*For tips on making a budget and available scholarships, please read the website [buitenland.uva.nl](http://buitenland.uva.nl) > praktische zaken > financiën*

**3. Start with the practical preparations**

*The Nuffic website ([www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie](http://www.wilweg.nl/volledige-studie)) offers a great checklist and lots of advice on arranging the practical matters like accommodation, insurances, visa, and other aspects.*